



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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VIRGINIA'S WHEAT FORECAST UNCHANGED

Virginia's Winter Wheat crop for 2006 is expected to total nearly 9.52 million bushels according to the USDA/NASS Virginia Field Office. If realized, producers will harvest 6 percent below last year's 10.1 million bushels and 4 percent below 9.9 million bushels produced in 2004. Producers in the Commonwealth expect to harvest 170,000 acres of wheat yielding an average of 56 bushels per acre, 7 bushels per acre below 2005. In general, small grains are in fair to good condition.

U.S. WINTER WHEAT PRODUCTION DOWN 4 PERCENT FROM MAY

U.S. Winter Wheat production is forecast at 1.26 billion bushels, down 4 percent from the May 1 forecast and 16 percent below 2005. Based on June 1 conditions, the U.S. yield is forecast at 40.5 bushels per acre, down 1.9 bushels from last month and 3.9 bushels less than last year. Grain area totals 31.2 million acres, unchanged from May 1.

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